

REMARKS

Responsive to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office action, Group I is elected with traverse covering claims 1-13 and 17-20 for examination.

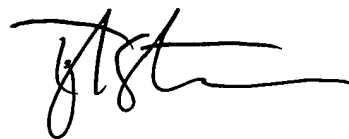
The Examiner has failed to establish that it would be a serious burden to examine the entire application. See MPEP § 803. Indeed, from the search required for Group I, it appears that very little additional burden would be required to include Group II. Note that claim 15 contains all the limitations of claim 1 but is applied to a test method. It is respectfully noted that a mere difference in classification is not an appropriate basis for restriction. The classification system was set up for purposes of information retrieval (35 U.S.C. § 9), and not for the purpose of establishing the propriety of a restriction requirement (35 U.S.C. § 121).

For all of the above reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully solicited.

An examination on the merits of all the claims is respectfully awaited.

In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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